PATENT COOPERATION TREATY



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 18 JUN 2004

_					•	WIPO	PCT	
Applican MP100	_	ent's file reference /O	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)					
International application No. PCT/GB 03/04593			International filing date 22.10.2003	(day/mont	lh/year)	Priority date (day/month/y 30.10.2002	ear)	
Internation D21H1		ent Classification (IPC) or bo	oth national classification	and IPC	,	<u> </u>		
Applicant INEOS		AS LIMITED et al.						
 This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 								
2. Th	. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.							
	This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).							
Th	These annexes consist of a total of sheets.							
			-					
3. Thi	is repo	eport contains indications relating to the following items:						
f	\boxtimes	Basis of the opinion			-			
П		Priority						
111		Non-establishment of o	pinion with regard to r	ovelty, in	ventive step ar	nd industrial applicability		
IV		Lack of unity of invention		•		·		
٧		Reasoned statement ur citations and explanatio	nder Rule 66.2(a)(ii) w ns supporting such st	ith regard atement	to novelty, inv	entive step or industrial a	applicability;	
VI		Certain documents cited	d ·					
VII		Certain defects in the in						
VII		Certain observations on	the international appl	lication				
Date of su	bmissio	n of the demand		Date of c	completion of this	report		
25.03.2004				17.06.2004				
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:				Authorize	od Officer		Palentale Palentale .	
M	D-8	opean Patent Office 0298 Munich		Naeslund, P				
Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465			epmu d	Telephone No. +49.89.2399-8614				

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY **EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB 03/04593

I. Bas	sis (of t	the	rep	ort
--------	-------	------	-----	-----	-----

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)):

	_							
	De	escription, Pages	•					
	1-	9.	as originally filed					
٠,	CI	aims, Numbers						
	1-	12	as originally filed					
2	. Wi lar	With regard to the language , all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in th anguage in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.						
	Th	These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:						
		the language of a tr	anslation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).					
		the language of pub	olication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).					
		the language of a tr Rule 55.2 and/or 55	anslation furnished for the purposes of interpotional profiles.					
3.	 With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international applicat international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing: 							
		contained in the inte	ernational application in written form.					
			e international application in computer readable form.					
		The statement that t listing has been furn	he information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence ished.					
4.	The	amendments have r	esulted in the cancellation of:					
		the description,	pages:					
		the claims,	Nos.:					
		the drawings,	sheets:					
5.		This report has been been considered to o	established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).					
			eet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this					
6.	Add	itional observations, i	f necessary:					

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/GB 03/04593

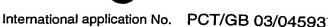
- V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- 1. Statement

Novelty (N) Yes: Claims 1-12 No: Claims NONE Inventive step (IS) Yes: Claims 1-12 Claims No: NONE Industrial applicability (IA) Yes: Claims 1-12 No: Claims NONE

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet





EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

There is no disclosure or suggestion in the prior art cited in the international search report of an aqueous slurry comprising a crystalline aluminosilicate and a particulate silica, as of claim 1. In view thereof and well as that a slurry having a structure which is resistant to settling but is readily capable of being discharged from a vessel is obtained, an inventive step is acknowledged. Therefore the requirements of Art. 33(2) and (3) PCT would appear fulfilled. The dependent claims refer to preferred embodiments and therefore also should fulfil the requirements of Art. 33(2) and (3) PCT. For the assessment of the present claims on the question whether they are industrially applicable, no particular reasoning would appear necessary to give. The industrial application would appear to be evident (Art. 33(4) PCT). The attention is however directed to the ranges for n, x and y in claim 1 which will have to be specified.